

HIGH-THROUGHPUT SCREENING ASSAYS BY ENCAPSULATION

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Candidates for biological activity are screened in capsules, each capsule
5 containing a candidate, a target (which may be a molecular species or a biological cell or
multiple copies of such a species or cell), and an intelligent substance. The target is one with
which a successful candidate will interact to evoke a particular response in the target, and the
intelligent substance is one that undergoes a transformation as a result of the response, the
transformation being detectable by observation of the capsule itself. The candidate and the
10 target are isolated from each other in the capsule until a designated point in time thereby
enabling the operator to control the time interval between exposure of the target to the
candidate and the observation of the capsule to determine whether or not a successful
interaction has occurred and the transformation has taken place.

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